IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Masaaki Ueda, et al. Examiner:

Unassigned

Serial No:

To be assigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

Filed:

Herewith

Docket:

17339

For:

MEDICAL INSTRUMENT

Dated:

January 5, 2004

HOLDING APPARATUS

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- 1. U.S. Patent No. 5,609,565, dated March 11, 1997, issued to Nakamura,
- 2. U.S. Patent No. US 6,514,239 B2, dated February 4, 2003, issued to Shimmura et al.; and
- 3. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 7-227398, dated August 29, 1995.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 5, 2004

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Applicants are submitting a copy of reference 3. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of references 1 and 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser 400 Garden City Plaza Garden City, New York 11530 (516) 742-4343

TS:cm

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number
17339	To be assigned
Applicant(s)	
Masaaki Ueda, et al.	
Filing Date	Group Art Unit

					Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unassigned			
				U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS				
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
		5,609,565	3/11/1997	Nakam	Nakamura			IF APPRO	OPRIATE _
		US 6,514,239 B2	2/4/2003	Shimmura et al.					
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			1	FOREIC	N PATENT DOCUMENTS				
	REF	EF DOCUMENT NUMBER		TOREIG	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Trans	slation
			DATE	Japan		CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES NO	
		7-227398	8/29/1995			 -			
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				OTHER	DOCUMENTS (Including	Author, Title,	Date, Pertinent Pa	iges, Etc.)	L
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